



Madison Valley NW Diversion and Washington Park Stormwater Storage Project

SUMMARY OF STAKEHOLDERS' COMMENTS FROM 11/5/08 PUBLIC MEETING AND WRITTEN COMMENT CARDS

Meeting Overview

On November 5, 2008, 18 community members attended a public meeting at The Bush School in Madison Valley to provide input to SPU's 30% design for Phase 1 - Expansion of the Above-Ground Stormwater Storage Facility at 30th Ave E. and E. John St.

Landscape Architect Karen Kiest presented themes for the 30% design based on input previously received from the community. The following is a summary of comments and questions on the 30% design received during the meeting:

Comment: I am concerned about the bridge in the middle separating the site or restricting the use of the space.

Comment: I like the idea of the bridge separating the space.

Comment: I could see a lot of kids, dogs and people having to climb over the raised walkway at the bottom of the site.

Response: Good point. We are trying to lower the bridge-like structure at the bottom.

Question: Can we lid part of the site?

Response: The City Council approved project includes stormwater diversion and storage at Washington Park, and expansion of the above-ground stormwater facility at 30th Ave. E and E John St. with the addition of landscaping and park-like amenities. Creating a lid structure over a portion of the site at 30th Ave. E and E John St. would change the project substantially especially in terms of cost and would not be in compliance with the Mayor and City Council approved project.

Question: Can the play area be fenced or placed on the bottom of the facility so it is further from the street?

Response: The plan is to maximize the separation between the play area and the street with trees. The idea of putting the play area on the bottom of the facility was discussed in the previous meeting. As this is a stormwater facility, there was concern about placing the play area on the bottom.

Comment: I would like something to celebrate the cage in the middle.

Response: We do plan to plant around the cage to beautify it, but we do have to adhere to maintenance requirements. We have heard different opinions about celebrating the cage or 'water' in this facility or not, because water/storm is a very sensitive issue to some residents.

Question: What is considered the access into the site for people with disabilities?

Response: There is a route through the site with grades meeting ADA requirements.

Question: I understand the cost issue of lidding an area on the site, so can there be more play areas for kids in the site and further from the road?

Response: We have moved the play area further from the street and then have large boulders going down the south section of the site for kids to play on, as well as the undulating lawn which kids like and also the dry creek bed for play.

Question: If soils are bad on the site will the water table be impacted by building this facility and cause impacts to residents' foundations?

Response: We have been monitoring the water table from before we built the current facility until now and there have been no changes to the groundwater levels.

Question: Will the 'dry creek' have water in it?

Response: The current design is meant for it to stay dry unless we have a storm event, and then it would stay wet for on only a short period of time.

Comment: I think this is a very attractive landscape and treatment for a facility.

Comment: I agree that it is really attractive.

Comment: Since we lack play area for small children in this neighborhood, this is very nice and accessible.

Comment: I like the natural play area and sand box idea.

Comment: I do worry about cats using the sand box.

Comment: It would be nice to have a re-circulating water feature in the design. Is that expensive?

Response: Yes, re-circulating water features are expensive.

Comment: Love it! I like the path and gabion bridge idea. I don't think a larger play area is necessary as long as there are boulders for climbing.

Next Steps

The next step will be for SPU to look into the feasibility of the comments and incorporate the input into the design of the Above-Ground Stormwater Storage Facility at 30th Ave E. and E. John St. The next public meeting will take place sometime in January 2009 when 60% design has been completed.

These notes have been posted on the project Web site, www.seattle.gov/util/MadisonValley. For questions about the 11/5/08 public meeting or these meeting notes, please contact Elaine Yeung at elaine.yeung@seattle.gov.